

The matter of Fact of Sir Richard Temple's Case, Truly Stated.

IT is well known Sir Richard Temple was one of the Commissioners of the Customs in the latter end of King Charles the Second's Reign, and by Order of the then Lords Commissioners of the Treasury was sent on a General Survey of the Customs; in which he did not demean himself so well to the satisfaction of their Lordships, but that he had some reason to apprehend himself in danger of losing his Employment, which had been a sweet Mor-

To prevent which, and knowing it would be grateful to that King, the Surrendering the Charter of *Buckingham*, where he had some Interest, immediately applied himself to the effecting the same; and having insinuated into the Mayor and Corporation, what Advantages they should reap thereby, and made a new Model that took in all his own Friends, to secure his Election when a Parliament should happen to be called, prevailed with some part of the Corporation, and having gotten the Charter into their Possession, upon Sir Richard's promise to bear all the Charge of the New one; up they come to Town together, and Surrender the same in *August*, 1684. as appears upon Record.

And this was then esteemed such an acceptable piece of Service, that Sir Richard not only kept his Place in which he stood tottering before, but got an Order the New Charter should pass for Quarter Fees, which Sir Richard by his Agents paid out of his own Pocket accordingly.

That upon the Death of King Charles, Sir Richard continued to Act on, in the Commission of the Customs for some short time, as will appear by several Letters and other Directions under his Hand, in the Books of the Customs: But afterwards being told how dangerous it was to Levy Money upon the Subject without Act of Parliament, he withdrew himself from the Custom-house for a day or two, which some of the other Commissioners that were weary of Sir Richard's Company, as well as Management (in which, as in all other Places, he was very troublesome and ungovernable, and consequently they glad enough to be rid of him) took advantage of; and immediately prevailed with the King to lay him aside; which Sir Richard, who had all this while pretended himself to be Sick, coming to understand, presently applied to the King to be continued; assuring his Majesty, it was not want of Zeal to his Service, but a real Indisposition of Health that hindered his Attendance at the Custom-house.

But the King would not be prevailed with to hearken to him, though Sir Richard was so very solicitous and importunate with him where ever he went; That still following him, declar'd against the hardship and injustice of his Dismission; and pressing to be Restored, grew so troublesome at last, that one Night late as the King was going into his Bed-chamber, he was heard to say with some heat, (*viz.*) *Sir Richard, Kings must have time to take their Rest in, as well as their Subjects, and therefore I will be troubled no further.*

Hereupon the Warrant for the New Commission of the Customs, being Signed and passed the Treasury, and Sir Richard's hopes of being restored quite over, he begins to cast about him, how he might regain his Princes Favour which he had so imprudently lost, and render his now slighted Services more acceptable to the Crown; and in the end obtain a good Pention that should be Equivalent at least to the loss of his Employment.

This made him consult some great Men at Court then in favour, from whom he quickly understood that Addressing was a very Obliging thing, and the only probable way to compass his Design; upon which he sends away to *Buckingham*, where the Corporation being all of a piece, and of his own making, obtain'd

his ends without much difficulty, and he presently appears at *Whitehall*, in head of the Corporation, introducing them, and presenting that King with Tory Address, still to be found in the publick *Gazette*; which was deliver'd w this Remarkable passage, it being so early in that King's Reign, as the first open his Chappel, the Aldermen following the King thither, *fell down upon the Knees at Mass, supposing they had been at Common Prayer.* Which Sir Richard can forget, having so often told it for a Jest.

And thus having made his first step towards his peace, he takes all farther occasions to demonstrate his Affection to that Government; in Order, no doubt, advance his Design touching the Pension which still run in his thoughts.

And the Parliament being to sit in *May* following, you may be sure Sir Richard is chosen at *Buckingham* without opposition, and not to mention his particular Behaviour in the House at that time, I may without any injury to him justly say, That in general he came up to all the measures of that Court, and thereby set himself straight again in that King's favour, that immediately upon the rising of the Parliament, he prevail'd to have a Pension settled upon him, of Twelve Hundred Pounds a Year, payable at *Custom-house*, Commencing from *Michaelmas 1684*. On which he actually Receiv'd Eighteen Hundred Pounds by Quarterly Payments still calling it his Sallery, which is sufficient to satisfy the World he did not lay down his Employment of himself, as he would now have People believe, (*vide*) his Grant, and the Receipts under his Hand for the Mony, in the Receiver Generals Office at the *Custom-house*.

After this, whether it was for want of Mony, or that the Government thought Eighteen Hundred Pounds a sufficient reward for his Service, I cannot tell; but a stop was put to the Pension, and all his endeavours could not prevail to have more paid him.

Though at last he resolv'd, when it was come to a good round Sum, to make one bold step more towards his obtaining it, which he attempted on or about *June 1688.* By his voluntary Resignation of the High Stewards place of *Buckingham* to my Lord Castlemain a known Papist; which is such a notorious Truth, and his own Act, that it is hop'd Sir Richard has not confidence enough to deny it.

But all this produc'd not the end Sir Richard aim'd at; for his Lordship whom he had so highly Obliged, and by whose favour in return he hop'd to gain his Arrear, was hardly warm in his place before the happy Revolution came, and that set aside all his hopes of getting the Mony, which Sir Richard in time wisely considering immediately cross'd his Book of the Debt, rub'd his Face clean, and sets up for the present Government, as righteously as if he had never been concern'd with the other side.

And thus you have, without any injustice done him, an impartial Account of the Man; who has been in with all Governments, but steady to none: Which makes us, without Door, hope this House will spew him out as an unworthy Member of so good a Parliament.

F I N I S.